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COMMISSION HOLDS BRITISH GUILTY OF ABUSES IN IRELAND

(Continued from First Page.)

their empire, jealous of its integrity and anxious about its security. The report points out that the Irish, as a result of their resort to arms in 1793, 1798, 1803, 1848 and 1867, have won from the British parliament the abolition of penal laws against Roman Catholics, disestablishment of the Irish church, liberal land laws and, finally, the Irish home-rule act, which was passed by the house of lords and commons and signed by the king in 1914. "At the behest of the British Tories, under Sir Edward Carson," the report says, "that act was suspended for the duration of the war and was later rendered void by a superseding act, which partitioned Ireland."

The commission, in referring to the Ulster rebellion of 1914, which it says, was started by the Tories to fight home rule, charged that Carson and other leaders who had imported arms from Germany and had set up a provisional government in Belfast, were forgiven and promoted to high offices in the British government.

Rebel for Independence.
 "After this," the report says, "in 1916, Irish poets, teachers and leaders, with less than 1,000 followers, rose in rebellion and declared Ireland's independence. Confronted with the Irish declaration of independence, the imperial British government poured additional troops into Ireland. The rebellion was crushed in April, 1916. The imperial British government then continued to pour troops into Ireland. The Irish to an increasing degree were deprived of civil and social liberty. Such British rule lasted until December 14, 1918, when, at the conclusion of a war, avowedly fought for the rights of small nations, the Irish people, in the general election held under British auspices, gave the endorsement of their suffrage to the Irish republic, which was the election issue in Ireland. In fulfillment of their pledge, the elected representatives of the Irish republic met in congress (January 21, 1919), and an army, known as the Irish republican army, was created, equipped with distinctive uniforms and drilled openly."

Two kinds of "killings" have characterized the Irish republican warfare, according to the report. First, the casualties resulting from the Sinn Féiners' attempts to obtain arms and ammunition in attacking motor lorries and police barracks, and, second, the secret "execution" of spies, traitors and enemies of the Irish republic who have been adjudged "guilty" by its courts and sentenced to death. It is admitted that the accused never appear before these Sinn Féin tribunals. Minor offenses are punishable by sentencing the guilty to enforced absence from their home town and residence for a stated period in "an unknown locality." The commission condemns the so-called legalized "killings."

Black and Tans Denounced.
 Many instances of alleged atrocities and wanton destruction of property by the British troops are presented in the report, but all of these were testified to and publicly reported at the time of the hearings last winter. Denunciation of the methods of the auxiliary cadets and the black and tans, two forces of "irregulars" that supplement the regular British troops, is expressed on the findings. Evidence of witnesses and depositions from victims, according to the report, established the fact that these troops included in their ranks "burglars and highwaymen, gunmen and petty thieves."

Regarding casualties, the commission says that it is justified in concluding that "not more than 600 of the British have been killed in Ireland from May, 1916, to December, 1920. These 600 casualties would seem to have occurred in a force of 78,000 during a period of four and one-half years. It is pointed out, or at the rate of not more than .26 of 1 per cent per annum."

On the other hand, according to lists compiled by the Irish republican government and submitted to the commission, more than 200 unarmed Irish civilians were killed by the military and police during 1920 alone. "This number, it was said, included six women, twelve children, ten old men and two priests, but did not include persons killed in the fighting. The commission says it does not vouch for the exactness of the figures, but "direct testimony," it says, showed the killings of civilians in 1920 ran into "many hundreds."

45,000 British' Raids.
 The testimony attributed to the British forces approximately 45,000 raids, entailing "wreckage of property, robbery, murder of citizens, brutality to priests and women and children, and indiscriminate fogging." Many of the raids, it was said, were made at night by "members of the British forces dressed in civilian clothing."

Stress was laid upon "the moral consequence to the imperial British forces of the British government's military policy in Ireland." License instead of discipline, the

commission says, now prevails among the troops. "Citizens of the Irish republic," are held blameless for "incidental accidental disciplinary casualties in the British forces, and for casualties incurred under circumstances of general violence and disorder. Many of the excesses of the 78,000 British troops are attributed to the incitement of the fear of assassination in the soldiers' minds by their superiors."

"We would extend our sympathy to the great British people," says the commission, in concluding its report. "The army, which is the instrument of their government in Ireland, would have seemed to be the instrument of the destruction of that moral heritage which was their glory and which cast its luster on each and all of them. The sun of that glory seems finally to have set over Ireland. British 'justice' has become a discredited thing. The official black and tans in Ireland compete for the dishonor of Anglo-Saxon civilization with our unofficial lynch mobs. . . . We hope that the wrong done to Ireland may be righted and the agony of her people cease. When these things shall be the great British people will emerge from the darkness now encompassing them into the glory of a new day."

Personnel of Committee.
 Thirty-six states were represented in the committee which initiated the inquiry. The report lists, including five governors, eleven United States senators, thirteen representatives, the mayors of fifteen large cities, Cardinal Gibbons, Archbishop Keane and four Roman Catholic bishops, seven Protestant Episcopal bishops, four Methodist bishops and numerous clergymen, educators, editors, business men and labor leaders. The parent

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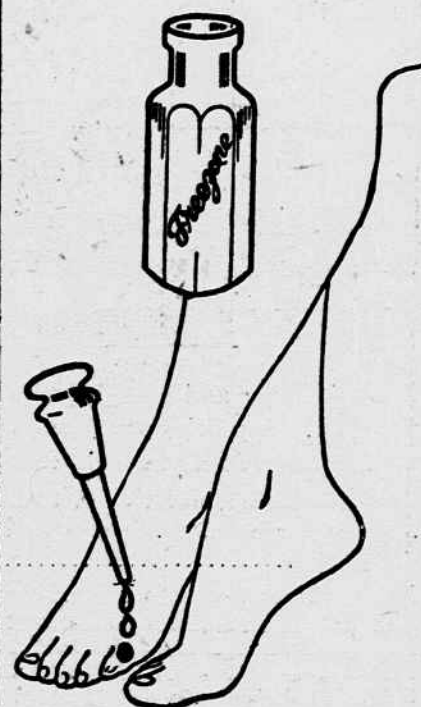
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PUBLISHED IN LONDON.

Newspapers Give Summary, But No Editorial Comment.

LONDON, March 31.—An unofficial summary of the report of the American commission of inquiry on the conditions in Ireland was published here this morning by the Daily News and the Herald, the laborite organ. The other newspapers printed brief notices regarding the report, but there was no editorial comment upon it.

Diamonds were first found in India.

The Moscow fire of 350 years ago is described as the "world's record" in it 200,000 persons are supposed to have perished.

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